

Commissioner Neven Mimica
Cabinet of Commissioner Neven Mimica
Consumer policy
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 13th September 2013

Dear Commissioner Mimica,

We were delighted to hear that this week you took the opportunity to personally engage with the Rapporteur and Shadows on the Medical Device proposal while being present in Strasbourg for President Barroso's State of the Union address.

This file will ultimately do two things: It will strengthen the high level of patient safety; and it will send a signal to the markets that underpin the 575,000 jobs and 4 billion euro a year R&D investment that our SME based industry puts back into the European economy.

With President Barroso's words on tackling unemployment and growth ringing in our ears, we were very surprised to hear that in the very same building on the very same day, the Commission, faced with equally valid options on patient safety, were responding favourably to options that, if carried, would raise questions in the market and in the boardroom with a real risk of driving these jobs and investments out of Europe. Furthermore, this approach seems at odds with your reflections on policy at our most recent meeting in July.

Today, Europe leads the way in healthcare and health technology innovation. But Europe is facing a health crisis with demographics driving an unsustainable burden on national health systems. This means we need focussed investment in innovation that bring efficiency and improved patient outcomes to health systems and European citizens. Better health needs better investment in health. One follows the other. But if Europe is not an attractive place to invest, one will not follow the other and Europe will risk becoming 'second class' in healthcare.

Given the above we would value a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to better understand the evolution of the debate. Given the link to the overarching policy on Growth, we will also be raising our concerns to the President of the Commission.

Yours sincerely,



Guy Lebeau
Company Group Chairman Johnson & Johnson
Chairman, Eucomed Board of Directors



Serge Bernasconi
Chief Executive Officer
EDMA, Eucomed & MedTech Europe

Cc: Vice-President Tajani, Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner Andor